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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re United States Patent Application of: |) | Docket No.: | 4258-112 |
| |) | | |
| Applicants: |) | Conf. No.: | 5253 |
| MATO DE LA PAZ, Jose |) | | |
| Maria, et al. |) | | |
| |) | | |
| Application No.: |) | Art Unit: | 1614 |
| 10/540,212 |) | | |
| |) | | |
| Date Filed: |) | Examiner: | Changhwa J. Cheu |
| January 12, 2006 |) | | |
| |) | | |
| Title: |) | Customer No.: | |
| METHOD OF DIAGNOSING |) | | |
| NON-ALCOHOLIC |) | | |
| STEATOHEPATITIS (NASH) |) | | |
| USING MOLECULAR |) | | |
| MARKERS |) | | |

23448

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE (37 CFR 1.10)

ATTN: Examiner Changhwa J. Cheu

I hereby certify that this document is being filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, by Express Mail transmittal, postage prepaid, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date specified below, in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.10.

EO 015 519 945 US

Express Mail Label Number

Kate Pope
Kate Pope

April 6, 2007

Date of Mailing

**RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 16, 2006 OFFICE ACTION IN U.S. PATENT
APPLICATION NO. 10/540,212; PETITION FOR THREE MONTHS EXTENSION OF
TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136; AND CLAIM OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

04/09/2007 EEKUBAY1 00000013 10540212

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01 FC:2253

This responds to the October 16, 2006 Office Action in the above-identified application. The deadline of January 16, 2007 set in the Office Action has been extended to April 16, 2007 by the petition under 37 CFR 1.136 set out in the ensuing Remarks section herein. Payment is enclosed for such extension of time, in the amount specified by 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3), of \$510.00.

Please amend the claims as set out in Section I (Amendments to the Claims), beginning on page 3 hereof.

Remarks concerning amendments made to the claims, and the substance of the October 16, 2006 Office Action, are set out in Section II (Remarks), beginning on page 6 hereof.